This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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All your strength is in your union, all your danger is in discord.—Longfellow.

WHOLE NO. 1369 WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1937 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer VOL. 27, NO. 28

Democratic Self-Government Is Solid Basis For Organized Labor Movement

By WILLIAM GREEN
President, American Federation of Labor
(As told to Fred Pasley)

Editor's Note.—The following statement by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, was published on the "Economic Battle Page" of the July 8 issues of the New York Daily News, the Cleveland News, and other newspapers.

One hundred and seventy-one years ago the people of America joined together against the rule of absolutism to safeguard their future security. They declared themselves independent to end the mounting injuries inflicted upon them by an absolute, arbitrary and tyrannical government. Having achieved that independence they proceeded to perfect a nation upon the foundations of democracy, freedom and justice.

Built upon the solid foundations of liberty and self-government America has attained a place in the family of nations that is characterized not only by its industrial and technical supremacy, but most of all by the enduring quality of its political organization which made it possible for the people to achieve better living as well as the greatest degree of freedom in self-government.

A. F. of L. Stands on Voluntary Principles

Fifty-six years ago the workers of America joined together to cement an effort extending over a period of years—to form a thorough Federation which would embrace every union in America into one national labor movement. That marked the beginning of the American Federation of Labor, conceived as one great national organization to which all unions should belong and which could speak and act with the strength of all. Striving to attain freedom and independence from economic oppression through union organization, the American Federation of Labor, like the nation itself, was founded on the principles of voluntary, democratic self-government. The enduring quality of democratic organization of the Federation was forcefully demonstrated to the workers in the successful growth of the Federation from a modest beginning into the best Labor movement in the world.

The American Federation of Labor has successfully weathered all the crises it encountered in the fifty-six years of its existence and has outlived all its competitors. It did that because it has been an organization that abhorred arbitrary and dictatorial power, an organization that had no authority and no power except of a voluntary character. The voluntary consent of the workers in common cause and common aims has proved to be a stronger and more lasting bond than could be welded by any autocratic authority no matter in whom such authority were vested.

Gompers Visioned Self-Seeker Menace

That the future advancement of Labor depends on its adherence to voluntary principles was recognized with solemn emphasis by Samuel Gompers, who dedicated his whole life to the service of Labor, in the last word of counsel he left for the movement which he had led and helped to build.

"The very success of our organization has brought additional and serious dangers," said Gompers. "Office in the labor movement now offers opportunity for something in addition to service—it offers opportunity for the self-seeker who sees an instrumentality for personal advancement, both in the economic and in the political field."

Speaking as one who with clean hands and with a singleness of purpose had served the labor movement honorably, he urged devotion to the fundamentals of human liberty—the principles of voluntarism.

"No lasting gain has ever come from compulsion," he said. "If we seek to force, we but tear apart that which is unbreakable and is invincible. There is no way whereby our labor movement may be assured sustained progress in determining its policies and its plans other than sincere democratic deliberation until a unanimous decision is reached. This may seem a cumbrous, slow method to the impatient, but the impatient are more concerned for immediate fortunate than for the ultimate permanent development."

C. I. O. Leadership Flouts Democratic Procedure

The danger to Labor which Gompers foresaw did not confront the movement until there came forward a man who has proved himself to be a self-seeker and who saw the Labor movement as an instrumentality for personal advancement. That man was John Lewis.

He has defied the democratic processes; he has rejected the majority rule; he has flouted the voluntary principles of unionism. Having broken his oath of allegiance to the American Federation of Labor, which he had taken voluntarily when he entered the Labor movement, he by persuasion and compulsion has made others violate their oath.

The record of what followed is well known. Surrounding himself with men he had previously considered so unfit as to denounce, John Lewis proceeded to build political capital on the resentment of the workers over their economic oppression. Having gathered a following, he attempted to rule unions, not serve them. He discarded union self-government and brushed aside the democratic majority rule. In union democracy we think that is dictatorship. No matter what the means before him he never turned and never stayed.

Tries to Rule by Minority Control

He already possessed a minority complex. He attempted to dominate the American Federation of Labor through minority control. Through the force and coercion exercised by a minority he carried that same principle into his attempt to win strikes. He endeavored to win strikes with only a portion of the workers organized. He neglected the essential, fundamental, primary principle necessary to success, and that is, organization of the workers first. Without asking the workers whether they wanted to strike or wanted to work he called them out on strikes, even when he knew that such action would only lead to violence and in the end to defeat. The lawlessness and anarchy wreaked through the nation by his Committee for Industrial Organization have produced bitterness and resentment on the part of workers, employers and the public alike.

Responsible for Repressive Legislation

The only ultimate result of this could be restrictive and repressive legislation from which all Labor will suffer. A bill restricting the freedom and independence of trade unions has already been voted out of the Michigan legislature. Other and even more dangerous measures are now pending before legislatures of other States and before Congress.

Just as the responsibility for the present division in the ranks of Labor fully rests on John Lewis and his Committee for Industrial Organization, so the responsibility for any and all damage to the trade union movement by the current flow of restrictive legislation will fall on him and his.

Private Deputy Sheriffs in Strikes Banned by New Pennsylvania Statute

Corporation-Paid Industrial Police, Responsible for Riots and Bloodshed in Labor Disputes, Are Legislated Out of Existence; Secretary of Labor Bashore Hails Law As Protector of Workers' Rights.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The use of privately paid deputy sheriffs to break strikes and interfere with the right of peaceful picketing is outlawed in Pennsylvania by a new act signed on July 5 when the new law passed by the Pennsylvania Legislature to regulate the hiring of deputies and prohibit them receiving compensation from industrial plants or corporations went into effect.

In a statement in Harrisburg, Secretary of Labor and Industry Ralph M. Bashore hailed the law as a measure to do away with the rioting and bloodshed that have been caused in the past by the use of industrial police.

"Investigation by the La Follette Committee," he said, "shows that some industrialists who employ armed company police, deputy sheriffs and even so-called vigilantes—many of them with police records—help to foment bitterness and the up production of many commodities necessary to the public.

"Right here in Pennsylvania we have had some recent and concrete examples of the use of the so-called vigilantes, deputies and other company-dominated police.

Picketing Protected

"It is well that we bear in mind the fact that the highest tribunal of the land recognizes the right of peaceful picketing. Under this new law we will recognize that legal right.

"No matter how partial civic officials may be toward corporate allies, they cannot aid in having any police officer of any status whatsoever appointed to act as a deputy under pro-

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EDITORIALS

Salaries of Corporation Executives

Daniel C. Roper, Secretary of Commerce, has just published figures regarding the wages of millions of working men and women in industry which reveal that for their services rendered in the creation of wealth for those who own industry the average annual wage in 1936 was only $1244.

In view of Mr. Roper's figures, which are based on a nation-wide census of income taken by the Government, it is interesting to note the annual salaries paid themselves by the very corporation officials who together fix the average annual wage at the indecently low level revealed by Mr. Roper's data—a level that does not enable the workers to buy for themselves and their families the kind of food, clothing, shelter, education, health service and other elements inseparably connected with decent living standards.

Under the Securities and Exchange Act, corporations are required to report to the Securities and Exchange Commission the salaries received by corporation officials. The reports for the year 1936 show that corporation executives, who fix their own salaries, are not thinking in terms of $1244 a year allocated to the wage earners, but frequently pay themselves twice as much as that amount for one day's "work."

A group of salaries just made public by the Securities and Exchange Commission illustrates strikingly the high type of social security which these corporation executives appropriate for themselves and their dependents out of the earnings of industry made possible by the productive work of the toilers who labor for the puny average wage of $1244 a year.

The board of directors of the General Electric Company paid Owen D. Young, chairman of the board, and Gerard Swope, president, each $146,500, which included bonuses of $40,000 apiece.

The directors of the Standard Oil Company of California paid W. H. Berg, vice president, $76,076 and R. W. Hannah, $60,076. The ten officer directors then voted themselves $590,400, an average salary of $59,400 each for the year.

The seven directors of R. H. Macy & Company paid Percy S. Straus, president, $102,420, and Edwin L. Marks, vice president, $102,075, but made vice president Deloe Walker get along on the relatively small salary of $21,816. Then the directors voted themselves a total of $317,070 for their services for the year, or an average salary of $51,707.50.

The board of directors of the Standard Oil Company of Indiana paid Edward G. Seubert, president, a salary of $105,400; Allan Jackson, vice president, $59,400; C. J. Barkdull, executive vice president and treasurer, $58,400; W. M. Burton, assistant, $59,310, and R. W. Stewart, assistant, $48,722.

The management of Collins and Aikman paid Willis G. McCullough, president, $76,220 for his executive ability for the year, and Charles B. Rockwell, vice president, $45,180.

R. I. Clarkson, chairman of the American Express Company, received $41,450 by order of the board of directors; and F. P. Small, president, $81,450.

The directors of General Motors Acceptance Corporation, a subsidiary of General Motors, paid John J. Schumann, Jr., president, $80,400.

These figures, with those of huge salaries, which place their recipients beyond the fear of want, it is instructive to recall that most of the corporation executives in the United States were violent opponents of the Social Security Act, which provides at least an approach to protection from want for the millions of wage earning men and women.

Distribution of Income

There are still certain economists and journalists attached to the retinues of our economic royalists who continue to prate about the blessings of the owners and operators of industry hand out to the millions of working men and women who do most of the useful work in industry.

Recent statistics on the distribution of income made public by the U. S. Department of Commerce are sufficiently pointed to shoot this theory of the equitable remuneration of human endeavor to pieces. Compared with the gains grabbed by stockholders so full of holes that it is little more than a sieve. The statistics show that by the use of their ownership of America's productive machinery, which carries back it the ownership of all the wealth produced by the workers, our industrial dictators appropriate for themselves a larger and larger portion of the earnings of industry and keep the workers' portion, expressed in wages, at low levels.

According to the Department figures, the owners of our industrial machinery divided among themselves $4,573 million dollars in dividends, an increase of 50 per cent over the dividends appropriated in 1935.

But while the lot of the owners of the men and women without whose mental skill and physical strength the wheels of industry would not turn and dividends would fail to zero, the Department's figures show that during the same year, 1936, the nation's workers passed out in official dends to stockholders an increase of 50 per cent over the 1935 record, held the total income of the workers down to an increase of only 14 per cent over 1935.

That is to say, in the division of the earnings of industry our industrial overlords got a bonanza way little useful work in the form of profits, the actual production of commodities and other forms of wealth, an increase of 50 per cent in dividends, but gave the workers, who practically all of the useful work, an increase of only 14 per cent in wages.

One of the major functions of the American Federation of Labor is to organize workers into trade unions and through collective bargaining give them power to negotiate agreements with those who own and operate industry and commerce carrying wage rates that will guarantee the workers a more equitable portion of the national income.

The striking disparity revealed by the Commerce Department figures between the increases in dividends by stockholders and the increases in wages by wage earners in 1936 compared with 1935 gives added emphasis to the urgent necessity of carrying the gospel of trade unionism to every portion of industry. The last analysis the wages of labor, the income, and consequently their share of the national income, depends on their bargaining strength, and bargaining strength is rooted in collective action through strong and constructive trade unionism.

GREEN BACKS TEAMSTERS IN SEATTLE STAR STRIKE

Attacks Newspaper Guild for Claiming Jurisdiction Over Circulation Department Employees.

Seattle, Wash. (AFLNS).—A dispute involving the Teamsters and Chauffeurs Union, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, and the Seattle Local of the American Newspaper Guild, whose convention recently voted to affiliate with the Committee for Industrial Organization, caused the Seattle Star, a Scripps League afternoon paper, to temporarily suspend publication.

Guild Hogs Jurisdiction

The Newspaper Guild group extended its jurisdiction to include employes in the circulation department and branch offices, in addition to editorial and advertising employes. This action was challenged by the Teamsters Union, which asserted jurisdiction because the employes in question used automotive equipment.

The position of the Teamsters Union was upheld in a telegram to the Star by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

Teamsters Union Recognized

It was agreed that the management of the Star and the representatives of the Teamsters Union have reached an agreement under which the union guaranteed delivery of papers from the presses to branch managers who have charge of carriers in the various districts.

It was further stated in some cases the branch managers refused to accept the papers on the grounds that they were members of the Newspaper Guild.

Then the management of the Star, according to reports, transferred a number of Guild members employed as district circulation men...to other work and placed union teamsters in charge of distributing papers from the presses to carrier boys.

Following the announcement of the

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HIGHER-PAY PACT WON BY WAUSAU CARPENTERS

Wausau, Wis. (AFLNS).—Three hundred striking members of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners Local Union here won a 30-day strike against the George Silbernagel and Sons Company in a compromise agreement on the union's demand for a closed shop.

The terms of the settlement stipulate that 85 per cent of the employes shall belong to the Carpenters and Joiners Union and that five new employes shall become union members after a probationary period of one month.

In addition to recognizing the union as a sole bargaining agency for the company's employes, the agreement provided wage increases and a reduction in working hours.

MADISON TRUCK DRIVERS GAIN WAGE BOOST PACT

Madison, Wis. (AFLNS).—A closed shop agreement has been signed by the American Federation of Labor Truck Drivers Union and five Madison dairies providing for a 48-hour week, $72.00 a year pay increases and night differentials starting next November.

According to statements by milk dealers, the agreement will cause no increase in retail milk prices, but the single and double discount system of consumer accounts would be discontinued.

A. F. of L. Unions Gain $500,000 Wage Increase for Milwaukee Hotel Workers

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Agreements providing annual wage increases of around $500,000 for more than 1,500 employes of fifteen of Milwaukee's largest hotels were negotiated here by locals of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes Alliance, Laundry Workers Union, Operating Engineers, and the Milwaukee Building Trades Council.

Wage increases range from 25 to 60 per cent, according to classification. Hours for women are limited to 48 per week and to 54 for men. Laundry workers are put on a 44-hour week and the skilled crafts on a 40-hour basis.

The agreement provides for an arbitration committee to adjust grievances, and includes provisions against strikes and lockouts.

The unions reserve the right to refuse to go through picket lines in strikes properly authorized but beyond their control.

A. F. OF L. JOINS WORLD LABOR BODY

Affiliation Resolution Adopted by I. F. T. U. Council Urges Unity in American Labor Movement; Woll Approves Council's Action; I. F. T. U. Membership Reaches Twenty Million.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The General Council of the International Federation of Trade Unions at its meeting in Warsaw, Poland, unanimously adopted a resolution accepting the affiliation of the American Federation of Labor.

"It is the General Council's heartfelt wish," the resolution said, "that this affiliation should help to unite all sections of the United States trade union movement, and that all necessary efforts should be made with a view to removing the causes of the internal differences which have arisen in the United States trade union movement.

"The International Federation of Trade Unions will gladly use its influence in such a mediatory capacity as the bodies concerned may approve.

"The International Federation of Trade Unions does not wish to interfere in any way in the American trade union movement's internal affairs, wherefore its decision should not be taken as approval or condemnation of the form of organization ... of the American unions.

"... should be understood that the present decision is entirely without prejudice to the continued affiliation of the United States unions to their respective international trade secretariats recognised by the International Federation of Trade Unions."

Affiliation Hailed by Citrine

The resolution was moved by George Hicks, Labor member of the British Parliament and seconded by Leon Jouhaux, secretary-general of the French General Confederation of Workers and the Mexican delegate Carrillo.

The Council's action favoring affiliation was hailed by Sir Walter Citrine, president of the I. F. T. U., as one of the most important events in the development of international trade unionism. He said the addition of the A. F. of L. raised the I. F. T. U. membership to the 20,000,000 mark.

Approval Voiced

Matthew Woll, third vice president of the American Federation of Labor, who presented the application for affiliation by authority of the A. F. of L. Executive Council, thanked his fellow delegates of the I. F. T. U." for their action. He fully approved the resolution and welcomed the appeal for labor unity in the American labor move-

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C. I. O. IN PHILADELPHIA DEFEATED BY A. F. OF L.

Employes of Freihofer and Ward Bakery Companies Roll Up Large Majorities For American Federation of Labor Teamsters and Bakery Workers Unions as Bargaining Agencies.

Philadelphia, Pa. (AFLNS).—The American Federation of Labor defeated the Committee for Industrial Organization in the fight for exclusive rights to organize the baking industry in this area. The fight was precipitated by the action of the C. I. O. Bakery Workers Industrial Union in claiming the right to organize the employes of the Freihofer and Ward Baking Companies here.

This scheme was opposed by Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union Local No. 18, with jurisdiction over inside bakery workers, and by International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers Local No. 463, with jurisdiction over teamsters.

Teamsters Declare "Holiday"

The crisis in the controversy was accentuated when the C. I. O. union announced that it had negotiated agreements with the two baking companies. In protest against this action, six of the seven locals composing the Joint Teamsters Council No. 53 declared a city-wide "holiday" on the part of the teamsters, which brought bakery activity in Philadelphia and its surrounding area to the edge of paralysis, including the suspension of publication of six daily papers and two daily papers in Camden, N. J.

Election Favors A. F. of L.

Following conferences at the City Hall convened by Mayor Wilson the teamsters and bakers unions agreed to settle the controversy by a vote of the employes of the two companies

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Steel Strikes Lost By C. I. O. Minority Rule and Violent Policies, Green Says

"The Violation of Agreements, the Seizure of Public Property, Violence, Riots and Uprisings Can Have No Place in the Social, Economic and Industrial Life of America," and "No Union of Workers Who Resort to the Use of Such Methods Can Succeed," A. F. of L. President Asserts.

"No Hostile Employer in America Has Done the Cause of Organized Labor More Harm Than Those Who Formulated, Executed and Administered the Policies of the Committee for Industrial Organization During the Past Eighteen Months."

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The strikes in the iron and steel industry have been lost because of the utterly subversive policies of minority domination and violence sponsored by the Committee for Industrial Organization, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, declared in a statement here.

Holding that the strikes were "ill-advised and untimely," Mr. Green pointed out that the reactionary policies of the C. I. O. aroused public opinion against them from the beginning, that, "no union of workers who resort to the use of such methods can succeed," and that "failure for those who pursue such a policy is inevitable."

He placed responsibility for the lawlessness exhibited in the strikes, which "exacted their toll in human life and human suffering," squarely on the shoulders of the leaders of the Committee for Industrial Organization, and held that they alone are to blame for the legislation recently proposed in various States to repress trade union organization.

Text of Green's Statement

Following is the text of Mr. Green's statement:

"It now becomes certain that the steel strikes at Chicago, Cleveland, Johnstown, Youngstown, Canton and other cities are lost. That means that the Committee for Industrial Organization failed to meet its first major test successfully.

"The strikes exacted their toll in human life and human suffering. No one can correctly measure the extent of the distress which individuals and whole communities have suffered and will suffer.

"The hosts of Labor are truly sorry because of the failure of the costly experiment and its tragic outcome. They regret that thousands of workers were persuaded to sacrifice themselves as victims of ill-advised and untimely strikes. Resentment and disappointment among these workers is bound to follow.

Coal Miners Affected by Strike Fiasco

"The query now is, What steps will now be taken by the one who formulates the policies of the Committee for Industrial Organization.

"He ordered those employed in the mines of the independent coal companies to strike in sympathy with the steel workers. Those workers are idle now for the alleged purpose of preventing the independent steel companies from securing coal.

"Now that the steel mills are in operation, will he call out on strike those mine workers who are employed at mines where the steel companies will now buy their coal supply?

"He is now confronted with the problem of carrying out his threat to call miners on strike who are working under contract in mines where coal will be mined and shipped to independent steel companies or directing those employed at mines owned by said independent steel companies back to work, defeated and demoralized.

Majority of Steel Workers Refused to Strike

"There are two outstanding reasons why the strikes were lost.

"First, because only a minority of the steel workers employed at the plants involved were willing to walk the strikes were called.

"Apparently, the C. I. O. leaders are strong for minority action and minority control. They sought to win

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SIXTEEN-HOUR DAY HIT BY RAILROAD FIREMEN

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Strong opposition to the provision of the hours-of-service law which permits railroad managements to work enginemen and other train crew members for a 16-hour period, after which they are allowed eight hours rest, was voiced by the convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen in Milwaukee, Wis.

A resolution adopted by the convention declared that the work period should be cut to 12 hours. Delegates were a unit in claiming that a fireman's job has been made "a curse" continuously on a modern locomotive pulling a train 400 miles or more, and went to convince him that 16 hours of work are inhuman.

The convention also favored the Federal full crew bill, which protects trainmen as well as conductors against the elimination of full crews as now required in the interest of public safety.

City Employes Form Large Union in Fond du Lac, Wis.

Fond du Lac, Wis. (AFLNS).—Local No. 133 of the State, County and Municipal Employes Union has been organized here with a membership of approximately 150.

Preservation of Democracy Requires Trade Unions, A. F. of L. Declares

Thirty Million Persons Thrown Into the Unemployed Army During the Last Depression, One-Sixth of the Population Compelled to Exist Under Low Living Standards Even in Years of Greatest Prosperity, and the Wiping Out of Recent Wage Increases by Boosts in the Cost of Living, All Indicate the Necessity of Labor Organization to Protect the Workers, Business Survey Says.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Economic developments of the past few years—with ex unemployed army numbering many millions of workers denied the right to earn a living, with millions of our people held to wages so low that they are unable to provide decent living conditions for themselves and their families, and with those who own the necessaries of life raising prices to such an extent that wage increases are nullified—point inexorably to the necessity for adequate organization of the masses in trade unions in order to protect their economic rights and share equitably in economic progress.

This is the fundamental idea set forth in the current Monthly Survey of Business, published by the American Federation of Labor. The truth of this claim is indisputably shown, according to the Survey, by the fact that society is more and more compelled to use its power to control predatory wealth, universally organized against the public welfare, and that it is only through organization that working men and women can secure representation in the social institutions necessary for this collective control.

On the question of wages and prices the Survey points out that "prices have risen so rapidly in the last three years that our hard won wage gains are wiped away by the increased cost of living."

On the basis of a compilation from the United States Department of Commerce on the average earnings of wage and salaried workers and National Industrial Conference Board cost of living figures, the Survey said:

"It shows that although workers' average yearly income has increased from $1063 in 1933 to $1244 in 1936, a gain of $163, the rise in living costs has canceled nearly all this gain, leaving a real increase of only $17—less than a dollar and a half per month added to the worker's living standard. This is all the progress made in three years of recovery and a period of rising business in the most favorable of all for raising workers' real income."

Turning to the economic development of recent years, signalized by nation-wide unemployment and destitution, and the paramount necessity for labor organization to preserve democracy, the Survey said:

Labor Is Victimized

"Labor's nationwide drive to organize its trade unions has fundamental significance.

"Not America alone, but every industrial nation in the world has within the last generation that business without social control, operated only to make profits, does not bring to working men and women the standards of living which modern industry make possible.

"Wage earners the world over will not soon forget that 20,000,000 in the last depression were forced to idleness,

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Steel Strikes Lost By C. I. O. Minority Rule and Violent Policies, Green Says

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a major battle with only a corporal's guard in action.

"The C. I. O. was not defeated because the small number of victims who participated in the strike lacked heroism or courage, but simply because the overwhelming majority of the steel workers refused to follow the C. I. O. and participate in the strike. The essential requirement of a strong and completely organized army of workers, preliminary to the calling of a strike, was completely ignored.

Violent Policies Alienated Public Opinion

"Second, public opinion was aroused because of the violent policies pursued by the C. I. O. in automobile and steel during the past year. It became openly hostile.

"Here, again, the power and force of public opinion is emphasized. The leaders of the C. I. O. may as well make up their minds that they can not win strikes against which public opinion sets itself. The reaction of public opinion against the C. I. O. and the C. I. O. methods is reflected in the creation of vigilante organizations in different parts of the country, the movement of legislation such as the new Labor Relations Act in Michigan, and the threat of repressive legislation in other States, as well as in the Congress of the United States.

A. F. of L. Must Fight Repressive Legislation

"As a result of the creation of hostile public opinion against the C. I. O., the American Federation of Labor must intensify its fight against the enactment of repressive legislation such as compulsory arbitration, the incorporation of trade unions and the restriction of the rights which organized labor now exercises both in carrying out contracts and in the investigation and prosecution of justifiable strikes.

"We can not permit all Organized Labor to be penalized because of the stupid mistakes of the C. I. O.

C. I. O. Methods Are Out of Place in America

"The violation of agreements, the seizure of public property, violence, force and intimidation can have no place in the social, economic and industrial life of America. No union of workers can resort to the use of such methods and succeed. Failure for those who pursue such a policy is inevitable.

"Workers of the United States understand this to be true. They are willing to strike and fight for higher wages and improved conditions of employment but they will do so as lawabiding citizens, through the exercise of every moral, legal and economic right to which they are entitled, in an orderly way and in conformity with the laws of the land.

"No hostile employer in America has done the things which Organized Labor more harm than those who formulated, executed and administered the policies of the Committee for Industrial Organization during the past eighteen months."

Athletic Goods Workers Union Finalizes Agreement With M-T-M Baseball Company

Philadelphia Concern's Output Will Carry A. F. of L. Union Label.

Philadelphia, Pa. (AFLNS).—The Athletic Goods Workers Local No. 19327, located here, have negotiated a union shop contract and a union label trades contract with the M-T-M Baseball Manufacturing Company of Philadelphia. In the future baseballs manufactured by this company will carry the A. F. of L. Union Label.

Spaulding Company Flouted Union

The Athletic Goods Workers was organized in 1933, and at that time were employed by the A. G. Spaulding Company, manufacturers of baseballs and general athletic equipment.

According to union officials, the Spaulding Company refused its Philadelphia plant in the latter part of 1936 and "farmed" part of the work out on a home-work basis while another part of it was sent to a strictly non-union contractor in Puerto Rico. None of the loyal Union members were given employment under the new system.

M-T-M Recognizes Union

Despite many unsuccessful attempts to have the company reverse its position in this matter, and the hardships entailed on its membership through lack of employment, the union retained its charter with the American Federation of Labor, until, when the M-T-M Company was organized, the union was in a position to supply it with skilled workers and obtain an agreement saying that the workmanship on this ball is done by people who have spent a lifetime preparing for the leading baseball manufacturers.

Four Big N. Y. Utilities Sign Agreements With Electrical Workers; 40,000 Benefit

By A. F. of L. News Service.

New York, N. Y.—Progress with a capital P for employes of the electrical industry of this area was achieved recently in the agreement negotiated by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers with the Brooklyn Edison Company, the New Yorkchester Lighting Company, the New York and Queens Electric Light and Power and the Telegraph and Subway Company, all subsidiaries of the gigantic Consolidated Edison Company, said to be the largest utility concern in the world.

Dan W. Tracy, president of the International Brotherhood, and local union officials signed the agreements for the workers.

Speaking for the Consolidated Edison Company, F. W. Krone said that contracts would soon be signed by three other companies, bringing the total employes covered up to about 40,000.

The agreements called for a five per cent wage increase effective July 1. Equally important, according to President Tracy, is a provision for the classification of employes and classification of earnings designed to secure future wage increases for a large number of employes. Other benefits are dental and medical service, hospitalization, pensions, and vacations and holidays with pay.

The plan for collective bargaining between the Consolidated Edison Company and the Electrical Workers Brotherhood was initiated last April when Floyd L. Carlisle, chairman of the company's board, recognized the brotherhood as a sole bargaining agency for the employes. Individual agreements with the subsidiaries were then drawn up and signed by local unions and international officers.

In addition to the agreements negotiated with the consolidated Edison system, the Electrical Workers Brotherhood also signed a contract with the G. I. Instrument Company of New Jersey carrying a provision for a closed shop and other union advantages for 1600 employes.

Upholsterers Union Wins Four Closed Shop Wage Boost Pacts in Newark and Milwaukee

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Upholsterers International Union of America announces two notable victories in strike settlement terms in favor of the Seven Universal Hair and Felt Company, two in Newark, N. J., and two in Milwaukee, Wis.

Before the strikes minimum wages for upholsterers in the Milwaukee plants had been 5½ cents an hour higher than those in the Newark plants. Under the agreements negotiated by the union with the company wages in the eastern plants were raised 9 to 14 cents an hour, while those in the Milwaukee plants were raised 4 to 7 cents an hour to equalize rates in the four plants.

The contract provides a week's vacation with pay for all employes in the plants after one year's service, one year or more and recognizes the Upholsterers International Union as the bargaining agency for the employes.

The strikes in the Newark plants were settled in a few weeks as strikes in Milwaukee two weeks.

Union officials announced that they were busy organizing the company's felt plants in Chicago.

Four Milwaukee Unions Win Higher Wages And Union Recognition in 19 Laundries

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Milwaukee, Wis.—The strike called by four Milwaukee unions against the Milwaukee Laundry Association and 19 of its associated companies has been settled by an agreement providing for a modified closed shop, the check-off system of dues, higher wages, and shorter hours with time and one-half for overtime.

The strike was called by Laundry Workers Union No. 174, Laundry and Dry Cleaning Drivers Union No. 360, Operating Engineers Union No. 311, and Cleaning and Dye House Workers Union No. 6.

Under the agreements minimum wages of inexperienced inside workers are set at 28 cents an hour, a raise from some 22½ cent minimums. Drivers are to get $12 a week and a ten per cent commission for the first 12 weeks and thereafter $22 a week and a 12 per cent commission on all business over $100.

The contract recognizes the four unions as the unqualified bargaining agents for all the employes. Under the modified closed shop clauses, nonunion employes will be laid off ahead of union members and seniority will otherwise govern. The agreements ended a number of strikes in the laundry industry, one of which began a year ago. The other walkouts followed in rapid succession after May 11 of this year.

CORRECTION

The July 3 issue of the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service contained an article headed "Akron Filling Station Union Wins Wage Strike," which stated that the strike was called against the Sinclair Refining Company of Akron, Ohio. This was an error. The strike was called against the Sinclair Refining Company of South Bend, Indiana, by the Oil Workers International Union.

Deferred 31½-Hour Week Won By N. Y. Ladies Cloak Makers

New York, N. Y.—An agreement providing for a 31½-hour week, effective in June, 1939, for about 25,000 cloak makers in the metropolitan area was announced by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Over One Million Railroad Workers Press Demands For Increased Wages

Twenty Per Cent Raise in Pay Held Necessary to Provide Annual Income Sufficient to Guarantee Decent Living Standards.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Twenty-one standard railroad unions contemplate gaining substantial wage increases and other protective features, for over a million workers, as a result of concerted efforts which are under way.

Demands were first filed by four train and engine service brotherhoods and the employes representing about 200,000 men, who asked a 20 per cent increase for all workers in these organizations.

Thereafter, a convention was held in Chicago sometime ago, attended by 1,000 delegates representing thirteen additional railroad unions, with approximately 800,000 more members, for whom an increase in wages of 20 cents an hour is asked.

This makes a total of over a million railroad workers who are organized, with nearly 300,000 seeking an increase of 20 per cent and nearly 800,000 asking 20 cents an hour more. All regard these increases as vitally necessary to the welfare of the workers, the railroads and the nation.

The "long wage" is an assured annual income sufficiently large for decent living, appears to be regarded as especially desirable by railroad workers. This resulted in the Chicago convention outlining three specific demands, which have since been presented to the various carriers. These include: (1) For the United States increase of 20 cents an hour; 2 guarantee of full-time work for all regular and part-time employees; and (3) payment of two-thirds of full time for all Stand-by employes.

Hit Heavily by Unemployment

Railroad employment has shown an almost steady decline since 1929, when 2,076,000 railroad workers were paid the unprecedented total of $3,754,000,000. The lowest number employed was in 1933, when only 991,000 did such work and were paid the lowest modern annual amount, a total of $1,592,000,000. In 1935, the number employed was 1,014,000, who were paid a total of $1,668,229,000. While the total figures for 1936 are not yet available, the monthly averages showed 5 or 6 per cent above those of 1935, it is a matter of employment, with only a slightly larger increase in total compensation.

44-HOUR WEEK STATUTE SIGNED BY GOV. EARLE

New Law, Effective December 1, Covers Both Men and Women Workers; Agricultural Workers and Domestics Are Exempted.

Harrisburg, Pa. (AFLNS).—Governor Earle signed the bill enacted by the recent session of the State Legislature limiting the work week in Pennsylvania to forty-four hours, effective December 1.

Under the bill workers cannot be employed longer than eight hours a day for five days a week or forty hours. The bill applies to both men and women.

The new law exempts domestics, agricultural workers, bona fide executives earning $25 a week or more, and persons in the "learned professions" who earn $25 a week or more.

The Department of Labor and Industry through the State Industrial Board is empowered to make exceptions to any regulation that imposes an "unnecessary hardship or violates the intent and purpose of the Act."

The law also includes provisions to give the measure flexibility in cases of emergency, where an employer can show it is necessary to employ the workers beyond the statutory limit.

GREEN BACKS TEAMSTERS IN SEATTLE STAR STRIKE

(Continued from Page 1)

agreement with the Teamsters Union, the Guild called a strike of the employes of the editorial, circulation and advertising departments, which caused the paper to suspend publication temporarily.

Green Supports Teamsters

In his telegram to the Seattle Star, President Green said the American Newspaper Guild "should be recognized as having authority to organize and represent your employes who handle distribution of your papers."

Mr. Green also urged organized labor in Seattle to support the Teamsters Union.

"The jurisdictional right to represent those who handle and distribute newspapers," he said, "was awarded to the Teamsters Union by the American Federation of Labor.

"I am calling upon organized labor in Seattle to support the Teamsters Union in its fight for recognition as the exclusive bargaining agency for the employes herein named."

FABRICATED METAL UNION WINS BALTIMORE STRIKE

Baltimore, Md. (AFLNS).—An agreement negotiated here by Fabricated Metal Workers Federal Labor Union No. 20618 settled a month's strike with the company concerned.

The company agreed to recognize the union as the sole collective bargaining agency for its employes in the Baltimore plant and adopt a piece work and time work wages.

The settlement provides for a five-day week, Monday to Friday inclusive, with time and a half for overtime, including Saturday work, and double time for Sundays and holidays.

Joseph Dalli, A. F. of L. organizer in the Baltimore area, assisted the union in negotiating the agreement.

Washington Labor Federation Official Brands Bridges Attack on A. F. of L. as Communism

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The Bolshevistic labor organization plan sponsored by Harry Bridges, of the C. I. O. apparently is apparently bound to a finish by Paul Fredericksen, assistant to the president of the Washington State Federation of Labor, in a statement relative to the attack Bridges made on the A. F. of L. and the Federation of Labor in a speech to the University of Washington Luncheon Club in Seattle.

Bridges told the club that the International Longshoremen's Association will support the destructive Committee for Industrial Organization but will stay within the A. F. of L. "until the break comes." He was reported as predicting the end "of the Federation of Labor in a speech to the University of Washington Luncheon Club in Seattle.

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Mr. Fredericksen branded as "plain Communism" Bridges attack on the American Federation of Labor.

"When he says the International Longshoremen's Association will stay within the American Federation of Labor but will work for the Committee for Industrial Organization, he is applying the 'horse from within' tactics of the Communists," Fredericksen declared.

"We have known all along what his position is and what he intends to do, but we did not permit him to come out so strongly at this time. However, we are prepared. Organized labor does not believe in the extermination of the employing class, as Bridges predicts 'the class struggle' playing class" in the United States.

A. F. of L. JOINS WORLD LABOR BODY

(Continued from Page 1)

ment. He ventured the opinion that affiliation with the I. F. T. U. in such happy circumstances would be helpful in establishing a united front in American trade unionism.

In an interview with a representative of the New York Times, Mr. Woll interpreted the I. F. T. U. Congress resolution as an unqualified acceptance of the A. F. of L. as an affiliate of the I. F. T. U. Postponement or qualified acceptance, at first voiced by a small group of delegates, aroused friendship for the destructive policies of the Committee for Industrial Organization, he held, would have created difficulties both for the A. F. of L. and the I. F. T. U.

Trade Secretariats Not Affected

According to the Times correspondent, Mr. Woll declared that in conformity with the resolution, the American Federation of Labor would not seek to dissolve the trades the United States from their respective trade secretariats. He added that the I. F. T. U., by expressing hope for unity in the American trade union movement, had recognized the rivalry between labor autonomy and that in doing so it was rendering good service to the cause of unity.

The I. F. T. U.'s appeal would be received favorably by American labor, Mr. Woll added, and would probably do much toward cementing the labor forces in the United States and preventing splits.

The General Council voted to hold the 1939 meeting of the I. F. T. U. in New York City, thereby enabling the delegates to attend the World's Fair.

ILLINOIS JUDGE UPHOLDS BARBERS UNION AGREEMENT

Rockford, Ill. (AFLNS).—Circuit Judge Arthur E. Fisher has used the injunction process to uphold the validity of a wage and hour agreement entered into by the barbers of Winnebago county.

A South Beloit barber kept his shop open after 6 p. m. and charged less than 50 cents for a haircut, in violation of the agreement.

On petition of a competing South Beloit barber and H. Owens, president of the Winnebago County Journeymen Barbers Association, Judge Fraser issued a temporary injunction restraining the chiseling barber from continuing his unfair practices.

Teamsters, Pattern Makers Gain Members in Lancaster

Lancaster, Pa. (AFLNS).—Twenty-five paid applications for membership in the Teamsters and Pattern Makers Local Union here were received at a recent meeting by John M. Treier, A. F. of L. organizer here.

It was reported that eighteen Pattern Makers had also signed up for union membership.

Much progress is also being made in the organization of carpenters, and an intensive campaign is being carried on by Mr. Treier and Wm. Bush, organizers for the Carpenters and Joiners Brotherhood.

Railroad Men Ask Mooney's Freedom

Firemen and Engineers's Convention Demands California Open San Quentin Prison Doors to Victim of Perjured Testimony.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

A strong-worded resolution backing the fight of Tom Mooney for release from San Quentin Prison was adopted by the convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen at its convention in Milwaukee, Wis.

Declaring that "but one course is open to labor everywhere—the unqualified shouting of such a volume of protest that even the tragedy of the labor's delay and the stupid thinking and action of reactionary powers can no longer prevail in this case," the convention appropriated $1,000 to assist in defraying the expenses of Thomas J. Mooney's demand for a release on a writ of habeas corpus, which is now before the California Supreme Court following an extensive hearing, extending over many months, held by the court's referee.

A. F. of L. Prevented Execution

Mooney was convicted of participation in the Preparedness Day bombing in San Francisco in 1916 which brought death to ten persons, and has been witnessing a war preparedness parade.

He escaped execution by the intervention of the American Federation of Labor, which, finally believing that he had been convicted by perjured testimony, requested the Governor of California to prevent his execution until a new trial was had.

The governor acted on the request by commuting Mooney's sentence to life imprisonment, but ever since then the Supreme Court of California has refused to grant a new trial.

New Trial Demanded

The 1936 convention of the American Federation of Labor reaffirmed its previous declarations announcing the belief of the A. F. of L. in the innocence of Mooney, and demanded a new trial for him.

Relative to the request for financial assistance to aid Mooney's counsel in defraying expenses of the habeas corpus proceedings before the California Supreme Court, the convention recommended that if a special campaign to raise funds to be launched it should be supervised by the California State Federation of Labor. The State Federation of Labor already has such a campaign underaken by the San Francisco Central Labor Council.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYES PLAN EUROPEAN TOUR

Itinerary of A. F. of L. Affiliate, Covering 33 Days, Includes British Cities, Paris, Brussels and The Hague.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Washington, D. C.—The District of Columbia Federation of the American Federation of Government Employees, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, announces a new kind of union service to its friends—a tour through the famous cities of Europe.

According to a statement made public by the department officials, the trip will be made by the "fast ocean greyhounds" and the time spent in the cities of Europe.

Fast boats have been selected so that 23 out of the 33 days of the trip may be spent in Europe.

The party will go over on the SS Washington, the largest ship ever built in the United States, sailing on August 27, and return on the Normandie, the largest and fastest French liner. The management will arrange for visas of passport, train ticket, take care of baggage, hotels, sightseeing, etc.

The tour will include Plymouth, London, Oxford, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick, Windsor Castle, Hampton Court, The Hague, Brussels, and Paris.

Reception in Paris

In Paris an official reception on the exposition grounds will be given in honor of the party of the American Federation of Government Employees, including a tour of the exposition buildings.

The basic cost of the tour is $448 tourist class steamship, and $365 third class steamship, excluding all personal expenses. Charles H. Whitsey, Secretary of the Washington Department, 1840 California Street, Washington, D. C., is in charge of the tour. Members of the party already conducted a number of successful excursion trips, also takes the initiative in arranging European travel for its members and friends.

C. I. O. IN PHILADELPHIA DEFEATED BY A. F. OF L.

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on the question of whether they wished to be represented by the American Federation of Labor unions or by the C. I. O. Union, the election to be held at the City Hall. The agreement to hold the election ended the one-day strike.

The election resulted in a big victory for the unions that the Committee for Industrial Organization had organized.

The employes of the Freihofer Bakery cast 631 votes for the American Federation of Labor and 519 for the C. I. O. Union, the ballots were thrown out.

The employes of the Ward Bakery cast 115 votes for the American Federation of Labor and 35 for the C. I. O. It was stated here that the defeat of the C. I. O. in the two bakeries meant that it would make no further attempts to organize other inside bakers or truckers employed in the baking industry in the Philadelphia area, which is estimated to give employment to 14,000 men and women.

A few days prior to the Teamsters "holiday" the Joint Teamsters Council voted to raise a fund of $25,000 per week to fight the attempted inroads of the C. I. O. in Eastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey. The Council is composed of six unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and represents an overwhelming majority of truck drivers in the Philadelphia area.

Preservation of Democracy Requires Trade Unions, A. F. of L. Declares

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denied the chance to earn a living while the machinery with which they were formerly produced is idle and idle. Nor will American labor forget that even in 1929, our year of greatest prosperity, one-sixth of our population was forced to live below the minimum necessary for health.

Social Control Necessary

"With the realization that industry is now equipped to produce an adequate supply for all, that certain controls can help to make this possibility a reality, a new public conscience has developed. This is not peculiar to America, but world wide in scope. The International Labor Office makes this report:

"'Present-day communities are no longer content to accept the buffets of economic misfortune with the same docility as in the past. The social consciousness has become more sensitive. The presence of widespread misery and unemployment no longer appears tolerable, and a world which is able to satisfy human need.'

"Where labor is organized in trade unions it can have no voice or influence in the social controls necessary to bring a good living for all.

Profit Theory Ignores Labor

"For the last century and a half the principles of 'Laissez-faire' have dominated thinking in the business and financial world. The theory that business men should be left free to operate at their business without government interference; that if they were given free rein the profit motive would stimulate them to maximum production, and their competition with each other would keep prices down and give efficient operation.

Anti-Trust Laws Not Effective

"We have tried in vain to stop by law the concentration of industrial control in combinations of enormous wealth and power which, automatically control production and prices. The anti-trust laws are a mockery of workers.

"Efforts to pass laws in the interest of those oppressed by the drive to profit have always been met with the outcry 'Keep government out of business,' reference to the principles of 'Laissez-faire' and the claim that it interfere with economic law would disrupt business.

"Efforts of workers to organize unions have been called conspiracy by those eager to keep control in their own hands. It is obvious that only through organization of workers is industrial democratic control possible."

Private Deputy Sheriffs in Strikes Banned by New Pennsylvania Statute

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vate auspices and paid by private purse."

Explanation of New Law

Bashore analyzed the new law as follows:

No deputy can be appointed as a special deputy to perform his duty for the private gain of any firm or private payrolls.

No deputy is not permitted to deputize more officers than one to each 3000 population in their respective counties.

No man convicted of a crime can be appointed a deputy sheriff, whether the crime was committed in Pennsylvania or elsewhere in the United States.

Ban on Corporation Police

No man who served a corporation as a deputy, detective or company policeman during any strike for two years previous to his application can be appointed a deputy sheriff.

The applicant must give his full name; he must be a citizen of the United States; he must have lived in the particular county for two years prior to his appointment.

Anyone making a false statement in an attempt to be deputized will be subject to arrest on a perjury charge.

Mandatory Public Listing

The Sheriff must post in a public place a list of those who have applied for badges, and the citizens of the community may scan the list and see that those applying are eligible under the law.

An important provision says that police shall not accept from a corporation gas bombs, machine guns or any other weapon to be used against strikers or members of the plant.

Strike Breakers Barred

"Hereafter," Bashore said, "labor difficulties will be settled in Pennsylvania by orderly procedure.

"No thugs, strike breakers, crooks or criminals will be able to enter while masquerading as police, detectives, deputy sheriffs, vigilantes, law-and-order leagues, or whatever name they wish to hide their real intentions under."

Consolidated Aircraft Company Official Lauds Agreement With Machinists Union

President Fleet Believes Pact Coverage to 3,000 Employes in San Diego Plant Should Be Pattern for Other Aircraft Companies.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The recent agreement negotiated with the Consolidated Aircraft Corporation at San Diego, California, by Aircraft Lodge No. 1125 of the International Association of Machinists and local officials of the corporation as the basis for satisfactory industrial relations between the employes and the company.

When the agreement, affecting 3,295 of the company's 4,000 employes was signed, Ma). Reuben H. Fleet, president of the corporation said:

"I feel that the country as a whole is better off if industry pays a high wage and operates on a basis under which employes do not suffer from overwork and have time for pleasure and enjoyment."

It is said that Consolidated Aircraft Corporation is the largest aircraft manufacturing plant in the United States and one of the most modern in the world, turning out pilot boats for the navy and transport, Mr. Fleet said he looked for continued expansion in the company's plant.

He expressed complete satisfaction with the labor agreement affecting wages, hours of work and other employment conditions of the hourly-paid employes, and declared that "we hope and believe that the amicable agreement with Aircraft Lodge No. 1125, International Association of Machinists, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, will be a pattern to govern other companies in our line of business in this country in their dealings with organized labor."

Carpenters and Upholsterers Unions Win Dispute With Kroehler Furniture Company

Kankakee Plant Agreement Recognizes the Unions and Reinstates Discharged Union Officers With Back Pay; Strikebreakers Are Dismissed.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and the Upholsterers International Union of America have won a considerable victory in their dispute with the Kroehler Furniture Company in a consent decree entered by the company's lawyers before Trial Examiner John P. Lindsay of the National Labor Relations Board at Kankakee, Illinois, which settles disputes with the unions at that point, the company's headquarters.

The company, which is one of the largest furniture manufacturers in the United States, with plants scattered throughout the middle west and on the Pacific Coast, has hitherto been one of the outstanding enemies of organized labor.

Under the Kankakee decree the company agrees to reinstate 19 employes who were union officials and were discharged on September 30, 1936, at the end of a 16-day strike "because of a conspiracy to retard production." The decree also awards a total back pay of $12,500 to the 19 men.

In addition, one Neil Cecil (Red) Vickery, a notorious strikebreaker and labor spy, convicted, and seven of his "athletes," must leave the employment of the company, under the terms of the consent decree.

The unions are recognized for collective bargaining purposes and the company agrees to submit to the rules and regulations of the National Labor Relations Board, which it had previously flouted.

"Red" Vickery had the title of "research director and athletic coach" for the company. He and his coterie of hired thugs attacked union meetings in attempts, it was charged, to intimidate the employes. Details regarding the activities of Vickery were produced in evidence before the examiner of the National Labor Relations Board.

HOD CARRIERS ORGANIZE STRONG UNION IN YUMA

Yuma, Ariz. (AFLNS).—As a result of thorough organization work a local of the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers Union of America was established here with a membership of 250.

Many new members have also been secured for Teamsters, Chauffeurs and Helpers Local Union No. 542 in San Diego.

Union officials in Yuma reported that employers were being applied for by Painters, Machinists, Retail Clerks, and Meat Cutters and Butchers.

"INDEPENDENT UNIONS" GOVERNED BY EMPLOYERS

Toledo Central Labor Union Secretary Says Workers Are Coerced Into Joining them.

By A. F. of L. News Service.

Otto Brach, secretary of the Central Labor Union of Toledo, Ohio, charged at a meeting of that body that workers in the Toledo area were being coerced into joining independent labor unions which are alleged are usually governed by employers. It was also claimed that they may be used as strike breakers.

Mr. Brach urged an amendment to the National Labor Relations Act to outlaw such unions, members of which, he stated, are frequently forced to join by foremen. He charged that some of these unions have recently been formed in Toledo and Findlay, Ohio, Monroe, Michigan, and other localities.